

February 19, 1969

Dean Magnus Flynn
Dean of Students
Sir George Williams University
Montreal, Quebec

Dear Dean Flynn:

This is in response to your request for information which may be relevant to the events of February 11. On the evening of February 10 having finished my evening class I went up to the cafeteria with two colleagues, George Lermer and Benson Brown. A group of five black students, three men and two women were seated at a table in the southeast corner. One of them, Kelvin Robinson, hailed me over to that table and I sat down with them. I was treated to a steady stream of threats and abuse. This included various reflections on my Jewish origin, including the term "Jew bastard." Robinson and the other students whose names I do not know told me that they were going to go through the University Calendar and weed out various professors other than Anderson. If I remember, these threats were aimed at myself, Chalk, Genovese and Adamson. The students were certainly not high on any stimulant but they were high on the revolutionary impetus. Of course this last is my interpretation.

I returned to sit with Brown and Lermer and two of the student occupiers of the faculty club came over to sit with us. We asked how things were going in the occupation and both of them (one of them was a student of mine named Richard Swift and the other one who I recognized from COMFPU meetings) took the position that what they called a "seige mentality" had taken hold. They described two events which led them to make this assessment. First they revealed that on the previous night the liquor had been broken into for the first time, which they interpreted as a breakdown in the previous discipline. Secondly they said that one of the girls occupying the faculty club had been "slapped around" by one of the leaders. We asked why and they responded that she had taken a "liberal" position which was not approved of by those in control.

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I hope that this might be of some use to you and to the University.

Yours sincerely,

Stephan J. Scheinberg
Associate Professor
Department of History

SJS:gs